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Description

The City Attorney's Office protects the people of San Diego by serving as chief legal counsel to the City of San Diego, including its Mayor, City Council, and all City departments; prosecuting and defending cases to which the City is or may be a party; and prosecuting violations of State and local laws on behalf of the People of the State of California while seeking resolutions that advance the interests of justice.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic's effect on City revenues, and resulting uncertainty of resources, the Office's Fiscal Year 2022 priorities revolve around core services as identified in the City Charter and other applicable laws.

The Office is divided into six divisions:

The Civil Advisory Division advises the City Council, Mayor, and all City departments on civil matters, including contractual, real estate, and financial transactions, and drafts municipal legislation and legal opinions. The Civil Advisory Division was restructured in late 2020 to accommodate the Strong Mayor/Strong Council form of government. The Division had long been run by one Assistant City Attorney, but the complexity and magnitude of the workload coupled with a new form of governance necessitated the addition of another Assistant City Attorney. The Assistant City Attorney for Council Relations and Specialized Services and her team work directly with City Council members and independent departments to accomplish their priorities. The Assistant City Attorney for Mayoral Departments and her team work directly with the Mayor and City department directors on operational issues.

The Civil Litigation Division annually defends and prosecutes hundreds of civil lawsuits involving the City and its officials and employees. Its attorneys hold contractors accountable, protect City assets from frivolous lawsuits, and keep important City projects on track. Its Affirmative Civil Enforcement Unit enforces laws that protect consumers, employees, and the environment, and collaborates with other agencies to protect public health and safety, restore environmental quality, and sustain economic vitality. Its Workers' Compensation Unit handles City employees' workers' compensation

claims.

The Criminal Division prosecutes criminal misdemeanors and infractions committed within the City's jurisdiction and assists victims of crime in navigating the criminal justice system. It manages the City Attorney's Gun Violence Restraining Order program to prevent predictable gun violence by those who pose a risk to themselves and others.

The Community Justice Division protects the quality of life in our communities through enforcement of health and safety, substandard housing, nuisance, and zoning laws. The Division also manages diversion and collaborative courts programs -- such as the Community Justice Initiative, Prosecution and Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Services (PLEADS), and the San Diego Misdemeanant At-Risk Track (S.M.A.R.T.) program -- that divert offenders from the criminal justice system into education, treatment, and employment opportunities.

The Administration Division is responsible for Office operations, including personnel management, budget, accounting, information technology, recruitment, training, hiring, and contract management. The Division includes a team of employment and labor attorneys providing advisory services regarding City-wide human resource and collective bargaining matters.

The Family Justice Center is a service-oriented division of the City Attorney's Office which is dedicated to transitioning victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking into survivors. Services are provided at no charge and include mental health providers, nurses, restraining order clinic attorneys, prosecutors, domestic violence advocates, immigration specialists, police, and other social service providers.

The vision is:

To improve the quality of life for all of our residents and visitors.

The mission is:

• We protect San Diego through our dedication to justice and the welfare of our people, especially our most vulnerable residents. • We protect taxpayers by defending the City in court and by advising its officials on the responsible management of neighborhood resources. • We protect our natural resources, our communities, our quality of life, and our residents from exploitation and unscrupulous business practices.

Goals and Objectives

- Goal 1: Protect City operations, businesses, and residents by providing timely legal services in response to needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic, through work on Executive Orders, Emergency Ordinances, and enforcement of health orders.
 - Work with mayoral departments to hold accountable those who violate health and safety, substandard housing, nuisance, and zoning laws.
- Goal 2: Protect our most vulnerable citizens with effective programs that target domestic violence, human trafficking, elder abuse, sex crimes, and gun violence.
 - Expand the success of the office's Gun Violence Restraining Order Program working with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the California Legislature, the San Diego Superior Court, and the San Diego Police Department.
 - Work with government and non-government partners, continue to expand services at the San Diego Family Justice Center to assist survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.
 - Lead a regional response to situations involving the abuse of elders and dependent adults, including those living in substandard housing or suffering from Alzheimer's Disease and dementia-related conditions.
 - Launch a pilot program for disarming Armed Prohibited Persons in conjunction with external agencies, including the California Department of Justice and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.
 - Conduct community outreach and explore alternative reporting mechanisms to address the underreporting of hate crimes.
- Goal 3: Develop and implement programs to keep people out of the criminal justice system by addressing the root causes of their behavior.
 - Refine the S.M.A.R.T. Program in accordance with state criminal justice reforms and expand services to additional individuals who would benefit from a one-stop shop for social services, case management, medical care and housing navigation.
 - Offer homeless offenders the opportunity to secure housing, support services, and treatment in lieu of prosecution, fines, and a criminal record.
 - Continue to expand the Prosecution and Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Services (PLEADS) program, which diverts people struggling with drug addiction from the criminal justice system and connects them with support services, providing significant cost savings for taxpayers.
 - Increase training, community outreach, and public awareness on the issue of substandard housing and nuisance properties. Aggressively investigate and hold accountable property owners, managers, and landlords and their agents that exploit and prey on vulnerable populations.
- Goal 4: Protect taxpayers by securing appropriate staffing levels for the Civil Litigation Division so that it can defend the City against an expanding volume of increasingly complex lawsuits without reliance on outside counsel.
- Goal 5: Secure appropriate staffing levels for the Civil Advisory Division to reflect the legislative and policy priorities of the City Council, Mayor, and City departments.

Department Summary

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2021-2022
	Actual	Budget	Proposed	Change
FTE Positions (Budgeted)	385.98	386.73	386.73	0.00
Personnel Expenditures	\$ 58,282,961	\$ 57,908,328	\$ 60,074,072	\$ 2,165,744
Non-Personnel Expenditures	3,560,740	4,495,262	5,644,957	1,149,695
Total Department Expenditures	\$ 61,843,701	\$ 62,403,590	\$ 65,719,029	\$ 3,315,439
Total Department Revenue	\$ 4,922,685	\$ 3,910,296	\$ 3,910,296	\$ -

General Fund

Department Expenditures

	FY2020 Actual	FY2021	FY2022	FY2021-2022
		Budget	Proposed	Change
Administration	\$ 8,036,889	\$ 6,680,375	\$ 8,667,045 \$	1,986,670
Civil Advisory	16,794,164	17,792,687	17,777,650	(15,037)
Civil Litigation	14,110,478	14,819,897	14,935,395	115,498
Community Justice	5,824,222	5,879,308	6,385,375	506,067
Criminal Litigation	16,176,448	16,118,797	16,949,446	830,649
Family Justice Center	901,501	1,112,526	1,004,118	(108,408)
Total	\$ 61,843,701	\$ 62,403,590	\$ 65,719,029 \$	3,315,439

Department Personnel

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2021-2022
	Budget	Budget	Proposed	Change
Administration	35.00	37.00	37.00	0.00
Civil Advisory	87.71	84.35	83.35	(1.00)
Civil Litigation	87.35	85.10	84.35	(0.75)
Community Justice	39.69	40.48	39.48	(1.00)
Criminal Litigation	126.23	130.80	133.55	2.75
Family Justice Center	10.00	9.00	9.00	0.00
Total	385.98	386.73	386.73	0.00

Significant Budget Adjustments

	FTE	Expenditures	Revenue
Salary and Benefit Adjustments Adjustments to reflect savings resulting from vacant positions for any period of the fiscal year, retirement contributions, retiree health contributions, and labor negotiations.	0.00 \$	1,629,368 \$	-
Outside Legal Counsel Addition of non-personnel expenditures to support various legal matters that arise throughout the fiscal year.	0.00	900,000	-
One-Time Additions and Annualizations Adjustment to reflect one-time revenues and expenditures, and the annualization of revenues and expenditures, implemented in Fiscal Year 2021.	0.00	319,000	-

ignificant Budget Adjustments		Francis di trons	D
Pay-In-Lieu of Annual Leave Adjustments	FTE 0.00	Expenditures 304,076	Revenue
Adjustment to expenditures associated with projected compensation to employees in-lieu of the use of annual eave.	0.00	304,076	-
amily Justice Center Security Services addition of non-personnel expenditures for security ervices at the San Diego Family Justice Center.	0.00	56,600	-
Non-Discretionary Adjustment Adjustment to expenditure allocations that are determined outside of the department's direct control. These allocations are generally based on prior year expenditure trends and examples of these include utilities, insurance, and rent.	0.00	14,470	-
equipment Rate Reduction Reduction in non-personnel expenditures associated with a rate reduction for equipment rentals.	0.00	(1,135)	-
Non-Standard Hour Personnel Funding Funding allocated according to a zero-based annual eview of hourly funding requirements.	0.00	(38,943)	-
Citywide Contracts Reduction of 2.6% Reduction of non-personnel expenditures associated with a 2.6% reduction in contracts citywide.	0.00	(39,100)	-
One-Time Additions and Annualizations Adjustment to reflect one-time revenues and expenditures, and the annualization of revenues and expenditures, implemented in Fiscal Year 2021.	0.00	(47,757)	-
Support for Information Technology Adjustment to expenditure allocations according to a zero-based annual review of information technology requirements.	0.00	218,860	-
requirements.	0.00 \$	3,315,439 \$	

Expenditures by Category

	,						
		FY2020	FY2021		FY2022		FY2021-2022
		Actual	Budget		Proposed		Change
PERSONNEL							
Personnel Cost	\$	35,206,687	\$ 34,112,443	\$	34,077,424	\$	(35,019)
Fringe Benefits		23,076,274	23,795,885		25,996,648		2,200,763
PERSONNEL SUBTOTAL		58,282,961	57,908,328		60,074,072		2,165,744
NON-PERSONNEL							
Supplies	\$	224,976	\$ 362,988	\$	364,127	\$	1,139
Contracts		1,475,869	1,586,108		2,518,090		931,982
Information Technology		1,721,467	2,354,723		2,573,583		218,860
Energy and Utilities		32,576	47,019		44,733		(2,286)
Other		105,853	141,424		141,424		-
Capital Expenditures		-	3,000		3,000		-
NON-PERSONNEL SUBTOTAL		3,560,740	4,495,262		5,644,957		1,149,695
Total	\$	61,843,701	\$ 62,403,590	\$	65,719,029	\$	3,315,439

Revenues by Category

	FY2020 Actual	FY2021 Budget	FY2022 Proposed	FY2021-2022 Change
Charges for Services	\$ 3,683,744	\$ 3,448,162	\$ 3,448,162	\$ -
Fines Forfeitures and Penalties	919,834	300,000	300,000	-
Licenses and Permits	824	3,500	3,500	-
Other Revenue	47,492	-	-	-
Rev from Other Agencies	250,000	158,634	158,634	-
Transfers In	20,791	-	-	-
Total	\$ 4,922,685	\$ 3,910,296	\$ 3,910,296	\$ -

Personnel Expenditures

Personi	iei Expenditures						
Job		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022			
Number	Job Title / Wages	Budget	Budget	Proposed	Sala	ry Range	Total
FTE, Salarie	es, and Wages						
20000011	Account Clerk	1.00	1.00	1.00	\$ 33,613 -	40,456	\$ 37,133
20000012	Administrative Aide 1	2.00	2.00	2.00	39,458 -	47,528	85,890
20001076	Assistant City Attorney	5.00	5.00	5.00	77,917 -	311,168	975,622
20001154	Assistant for Community Outreach	1.00	1.00	1.00	30,160 -	162,032	115,000
20000041	Assistant Management Analyst	1.00	1.00	1.00	47,466 -	57,699	57,699
20000050	Assistant Management Analyst	2.00	2.00	2.00	47,466 -	57,699	110,667
20000119	Associate Management Analyst	4.00	4.00	4.00	57,699 -	69,722	218,370
20000171	Auto Messenger 1	2.00	2.00	2.00	30,160 -	33,613	67,226
20001070	City Attorney	1.00	1.00	1.00	213,833 -	213,833	213,833
20000610	City Attorney Investigator	24.00	24.00	24.00	62,109 -	75,150	1,741,714
90000610	City Attorney Investigator- Hourly	0.90	0.90	0.90	62,109 -	75,150	55,898
20000539	Clerical Assistant 2	18.00	18.00	17.00	31,928 -	38,480	635,043
20001159	Confidential Secretary to the City Attorney	1.00	1.00	1.00	30,160 -	112,590	85,000
20000351	Court Support Clerk 1	16.00	15.00	16.00	33,613 -	40,456	623,901
20000353	Court Support Clerk 2	20.00	21.00	21.00	35,173 -	42,474	877,752
20001117	Deputy City Attorney	161.25	161.25	161.25	30,160 -	217,922	21,840,675
90001117	Deputy City Attorney- Hourly	0.98	0.98	0.98	30,160 -	217,922	130,631
20001258	Deputy City Attorney - Unrepresented	6.00	6.00	6.00	30,160 -	217,922	958,612
20001168	Deputy Director	1.00	1.00	1.00	50,128 -	184,330	175,614
20000924	Executive Assistant	1.00	1.00	1.00	46,467 -	56,202	54,518
20001220	Executive Director	1.00	1.00	1.00	50,128 -	184,330	165,277
20000290	Information Systems Analyst 2	2.00	2.00	2.00	57,699 -	69,722	139,444
20000293	Information Systems Analyst 3	1.00	1.00	1.00	63,336 -	76,586	76,586
20000377	Information Systems Technician	1.00	1.00	1.00	45,448 -	54,766	54,766
90001128	Legal Intern- Hourly	1.50	3.25	3.25	41,621 -	50,606	135,268
20000587	Legal Secretary 2	36.00	34.00	34.00	56,243 -	68,016	2,242,888
90000587	Legal Secretary 2- Hourly	0.35	0.35	0.35	56,243 -	68,016	19,685
20000911	Librarian 3	1.00	1.00	1.00	64,896 -	78,749	78,749

Personnel Expenditures

Job	iei experialitares	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022			
Number	Job Title / Wages	Budget		Proposed	Salar	y Range	Total
20000614	Paralegal	21.00	21.00	21.00	61,485 -	74,173	1,502,243
20000680	Payroll Specialist 2	2.00	2.00	2.00	40,726 -	49,171	92,214
200001141	Principal Assistant to the	1.00	1.00	1.00	30,160 -	171,205	149,386
20001141	City Attorney	1.00	1.00	1.00	30,100 -	171,203	143,300
20000747	Principal City Attorney	1.00	1.00	1.00	74,922 -	90,750	90,750
20000747	Investigator	1.00	1.00	1.00	74,322 -	30,730	30,730
20000741	Principal Clerk	1.00	1.00	1.00	46,467 -	56,202	56,202
20000741	Principal Legal Secretary	1.00	1.00	1.00	65,062 -	78,416	78,416
20000380	Principal Paralegal	1.00	1.00	1.00	74,630 -	89,773	89,773
2000003	Program Coordinator	3.00	3.00	3.00	30,160 -	147,160	317,261
20001234	Program Manager	3.00	3.00	3.00	50,160 - 50,128 -	184,330	328,474
20001222	_	5.00			,		
20000933	Senior City Attorney	5.00	5.00	5.00	68,078 -	82,514	409,690
20000025	Investigator	4.00	1.00	1.00	60.070	02.54.4	02.54.4
20000935	Senior City Attorney	1.00	1.00	1.00	68,078 -	82,514	82,514
20000027	Investigator	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.400	16.126	444 224
20000927	Senior Clerk/Typist	9.00	9.00	9.00	38,480 -	46,426	411,334
20001144	Senior Legal Intern	1.00	0.00	0.00	50,648 -	61,506	-
20000843	Senior Legal Secretary	6.00	7.00	7.00	61,984 -	74,672	514,491
20000015	Senior Management	1.00	1.00	1.00	63,336 -	76,586	76,586
	Analyst						
20000845	Senior Paralegal	5.00	5.00	5.00	67,662 -	81,474	402,074
20000916	Senior Public Information	0.00	1.00	1.00	57,699 -	69,722	69,722
	Officer						
20000970	Supervising Management	1.00	1.00	1.00	71,240 -	86,320	86,320
	Analyst						
20001057	Victim Services Coordinator	7.00	7.00	7.00	39,458 -	47,528	314,314
20000756	Word Processing Operator	3.00	3.00	3.00	33,613 -	40,456	113,716
	Adjust Budget To Approved						(2,412,143)
	Levels						
	Bilingual - Regular						45,136
	Budgeted Personnel						(1,345,018)
	Expenditure Savings						
	Master Library Degree						3,937
	Overtime Budgeted						10,512
	Sick Leave - Hourly						1,499
	Standby Pay						3,758
	Termination Pay Annual						45,776
	Leave						
	Vacation Pay In Lieu						565,026
FTE, Salarie	es, and Wages Subtotal	385.98	386.73	386.73		\$	34,077,424

	FY2020 Actual	FY2021 Budget	FY2022 Proposed	FY2021-2022 Change
Fringe Benefits				
Employee Offset Savings	\$ 317,903	\$ 325,775	\$ 292,231	\$ (33,544)
Flexible Benefits	4,712,168	4,739,724	5,184,579	444,855
Long-Term Disability	-	124,020	150,072	26,052
Medicare	530,502	515,639	516,745	1,106
Other	147,987	-	-	-
Other Post-Employment Benefits	2,388,893	2,337,850	2,246,252	(91,598)
Retiree Medical Trust	45,217	46,295	49,009	2,714

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2021-2022
	Actual	Budget	Proposed	Change
Retirement 401 Plan	35,535	36,712	35,718	(994)
Retirement ADC	11,822,512	12,502,437	14,130,069	1,627,632
Retirement DROP	54,936	59,847	74,898	15,051
Risk Management Administration	461,043	393,418	389,067	(4,351)
Supplemental Pension Savings Plan	2,241,084	2,334,306	2,399,241	64,935
Unemployment Insurance	55,470	55,041	54,430	(611)
Workers' Compensation	263,023	324,821	474,337	149,516
Fringe Benefits Subtotal	\$ 23,076,274	\$ 23,795,885	\$ 25,996,648	\$ 2,200,763
Total Personnel Expenditures			\$ 60,074,072	